

Cemetery of Mount Auburn.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES.

JANUARY, 1880.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

Cemetery of Mount Auburn,

TOGETHER WITH

THE REPORTS

OF THE

TREASURER AND SUPERINTENDENT.

JANUARY, 1880.

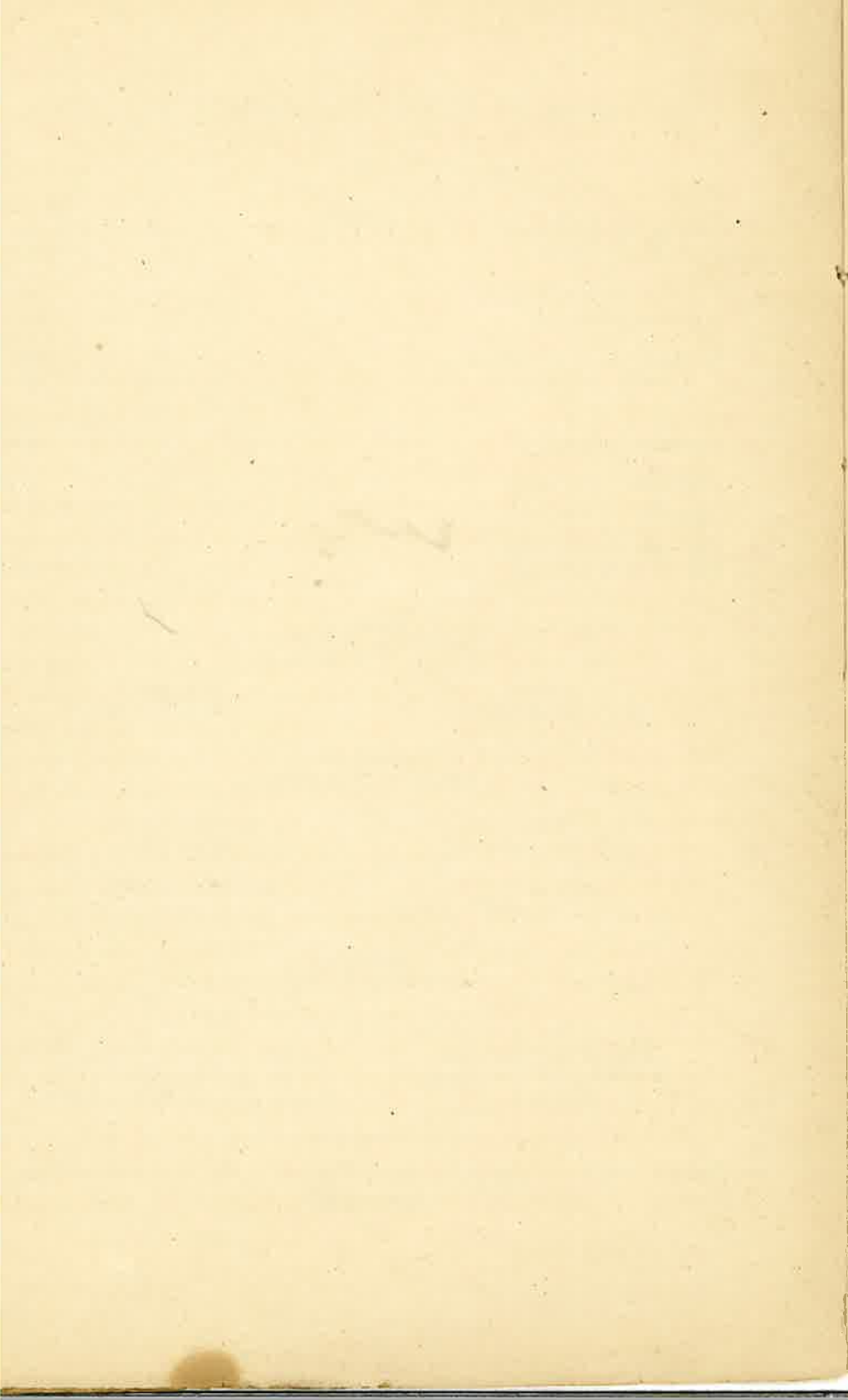


• BOSTON:

ALFRED MUDGE AND SON, PRINTERS,

NO. 34 SCHOOL STREET.

1880.



REPORT.

THERE is little in the doings of the past year which is deserving of particular mention. The sales, though moderate, have been sufficient to meet all ordinary requirements, though not large enough to warrant any extended improvements.

The efforts of the Superintendent have been mainly directed to keeping the avenues, paths, and grounds in good order, to the planting of new trees, the judicious pruning of those of larger growth, and to the setting out of shrubbery in unoccupied and available spaces. His report shows that much attention has been paid, during the past as well as several previous years, to the paving and repaving of gutters. Arrangements have been made, by means of numerous catch-basins, to intercept and carry off the surface-water after heavy rains, thus preventing the washing out of the avenues. The alignment, grading, and curves of the avenues and paths have also been much improved.

The removals of iron fences have been much larger during the past than during any previous year. The Superintendent reports sixty-eight removals. This movement appears to have commenced in the year 1871, when the removal of iron fences first began to be reported. In that year eight were erected and twelve removed. In 1875 none were reported as erected, while eleven were removed. The movement continued at about the same rate until the year 1878. In that year twenty-one were removed, and the number has now swelled for the year 1879, as previously stated, to sixty-eight.

These removals are probably owing partly to a change of taste on the part of proprietors, who are attracted by the openness and neatness of the landscape lawn method of laying out the grounds, and

partly to the expensiveness of the iron fence, which needs constant painting and repairs. Perhaps there is a growing feeling, also, that there is no necessity for an especial enclosure of lots in a cemetery, where the whole grounds are as carefully watched and cared for as our own. The limits of ownership are quite as effectually preserved by granite posts, not showing above the greensward, as by more conspicuous and more perishable erections.

It is quite probable that the same causes may operate to produce the removal of many of the heavy granite curbings of lots, which in our severe climate often require releading, if not resetting, in consequence of the action of the frost. The expense of keeping in order those which border the edges of the avenues might well be spared; and the substitution of an even edge of greensward would, in most cases, be an improvement. Indeed, this removal has already, in some cases, taken place, and always, we believe, to the great satisfaction of the proprietor and the general improvement of the surrounding lots.

The Treasurer's Report shows a reduction of \$5,000 in the notes payable, leaving a balance of \$10,000 covered by cash assets, amounting to nearly that sum. In addition to these are the materials and supplies on hand, of which no account is made, and also completed lots ready for sale. These last, when sold, will bring into the treasury about \$5,000, without any further expense on the part of the corporation.

The permanent fund amounts to \$214,382 52, the increase of the past year being \$4,573 57.

The fund for endowments for perpetual care of lots has increased during the year by the addition of \$27,847.82, and is at the present time \$239,562.30.

For the Trustees,

ISRAEL M. SPELMAN,

President.

JAN. 14, 1880.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn :

GENTLEMEN, — I have the honor to present herewith the Annual Report of the Superintendent for the year ending Dec. 31, 1879.

IMPROVEMENTS.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Number of new lots graded and bounded with granite posts | 46 |
| “ old lots improved by being graded and sodded | 42 |
| “ old lots bounded with granite posts | 10 |
| “ lots enclosed with granite | 5 |
| “ lots furnished with granite or iron numbers | 58 |
| “ tombs built | 0 |
| “ headstones erected | 290 |
| “ monuments erected | 28 |
| “ linear feet of gutters repaved | 2,297 |
| “ iron fences removed | 68 |
| “ hedges removed | 1 |

INTERMENT RECORD.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Total number of interments, as per last Report | 21,584 |
| Number of original interments for year ending Dec. 31, 1879 | 442 |
| “ removals from other cemeteries | 56 |
| Total number of interments for the year | 498 |
| Total number of interments in cemetery | 22,082 |
| Of the above there were deposits in the receiving-tomb | 19 |
| “ “ “ “ interments in public lots | 20 |

THE REMOVALS WITHIN AND FROM THE CEMETERY WERE AS FOLLOWS:—

| | |
|--|----|
| To public lots | 3 |
| To private lots | 46 |
| Total removals within the cemetery | 49 |
| “ “ from the cemetery | 23 |
| Total number of removals | 72 |

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. LOVERING,

Superintendent of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn.

MOUNT AUBURN, Dec. 31, 1879.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Cash balance from preceding year \$7,487.16

He has received from sundry parties, —

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| For sale of lots | \$11,370.25 |
| “ deposits in receiving-tomb | 382.00 |
| | <u>\$11,752.25</u> |
| For deeds, transfers, etc. | 202.30 |
| “ labor and material on lots | 36,040.31 |
| “ notes payable | 3,000.00 |
| From Massachusetts Hospital Life-Insurance Company, for income on permanent fund | 8,000.00 |

From Massachusetts Horticultural Society, for one quarter
part of expenditures, as follows: —

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Grading Stone Farm | \$1,028.62 |
| “ Cyclamen Path | 27.00 |
| “ Hazel Path | } 375.00 |
| “ Mountain Avenue | |
| | <u>\$1,430.62</u> |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| One quarter of \$1,430.62 | <u>\$357 65</u> | |
| | | 357.65 |
| | | <u>59,352.51</u> |
| | | <u>\$66,889.67</u> |

FOR THE 48TH YEAR, 1879.

EXPENDITURES.

He has paid sundry parties, —

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| For labor, pay-roll | \$28,323.35 | |
| “ materials | 10,137.28 | |
| “ repairs of buildings | 662.25 | |
| | | <hr/> \$39,122.88 |

For expenses, — salaries : —

| | | |
|--|------------|----------------|
| J. W. Lovering, Superintendent | \$2,750.00 | |
| H. B. Mackintosh, Treasurer | 2,250.00 | |
| J. Harris Reed, Secretary | 1,500.00 | |
| | | <hr/> 6,500.00 |

For office expenses 1,767.95

“ taxes on real estate 660.96

To amount paid Massachusetts Horticultural Society for its
proportion of sales 2,570.06To amount paid Massachusetts Hospital Life-Insurance Com-
pany for permanent fund 4,240.08

To amount paid interest on loans 543.59

“ “ “ notes payable 8,000.00

“ “ “ grave repurchased \$42.00

“ “ “ new receiving-tomb drawback 30.00

72.00

Balance in hands of the Treasurer 3,362.15

\$66,839.67

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF THE REPAIR FUND.

| | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| Balance in hands of Treasurer, as per last Report | \$4,804.07 | |
| He has received, — | | |
| From United States bonds (called) | 14,900.41 | |
| “ notes receivable | 2,325.00 | |
| “ endowments | 24,015.00 | |
| “ income of investments | 12,406.34 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$58,450.82 |
| He has paid for said account, — | | |
| For care and improvement of lots | \$8,573.52 | |
| “ notes receivable | 33,250.00 | |
| Balance in hands of Treasurer | 16,627.30 | |
| | <u> </u> | <u>\$58,450.82</u> |

REPAIR FUND.

PROPERTY.

| | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| Endowments for perpetual repair of lots, as per last Report . | \$211,714.48 | |
| Additions during the year | 27,847.82 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$239,562.30 |
| Invested as follows: — | | |
| Notes receivable, secured by mortgage | \$192,125.00 | |
| \$23,000 Boston city bonds | 22,710.00 | |
| 30 shares Atlas National Bank, cost | 2,970.00 | |
| 20 shares Atlantic National Bank, cost | 2,700.00 | |
| 20 shares Shawmut Bank, cost | 2,430.00 | |
| Cash in hands of Treasurer | 16,627.30 | |
| | <u> </u> | <u>\$239,562.30</u> |

GENERAL FUND.

CASH ASSETS.

| | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cash in hands of Treasurer | \$3,362.15 | |
| Bills for labor and material uncollected | \$8,001.73 | |
| Less due sundry parties for labor and material . . | 1,806.39 | |
| | <u> </u> | 6,195.34 |
| | <u> </u> | <u>\$9,557.49</u> |

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Notes payable | \$10,000.00 |
|-------------------------|-------------|

PERMANENT FUND.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Deposited with Massachusetts Hospital Life-Insurance Company, as per last Report | \$209,808.95 |
| Deposited in December, 1879 | 4,240.08 |
| Interest | 333.49 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$214,382.52 |

Also a deposit in trust with Massachusetts Hospital Life-Insurance Company, Policy No. 3,594, for \$6,300, payable on the decease of certain parties, to the Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn, for perpetual care of a certain lot.

THE OTHER PROPERTY OF THE CORPORATION

Consists of nearly 136 acres of cemetery-grounds, with avenues and paths, water-works for the supply of fountains and watering-purposes, and underground pipes and drains, chapel and statuary, observatory, receiving-tomb, gateway, and other structures; reception-house, and 5,626 feet of land on Mount Auburn Street; superintendent's house, green-houses, and 64,176 feet between Brattle and Mount Auburn Streets; and the Stone Meadow on the east side of Coolidge Avenue, containing about five acres, on which are located the stables and other buildings.

Respectfully submitted.

H. B. MACKINTOSH, *Treasurer.*

Boston, Jan. 8, 1880.

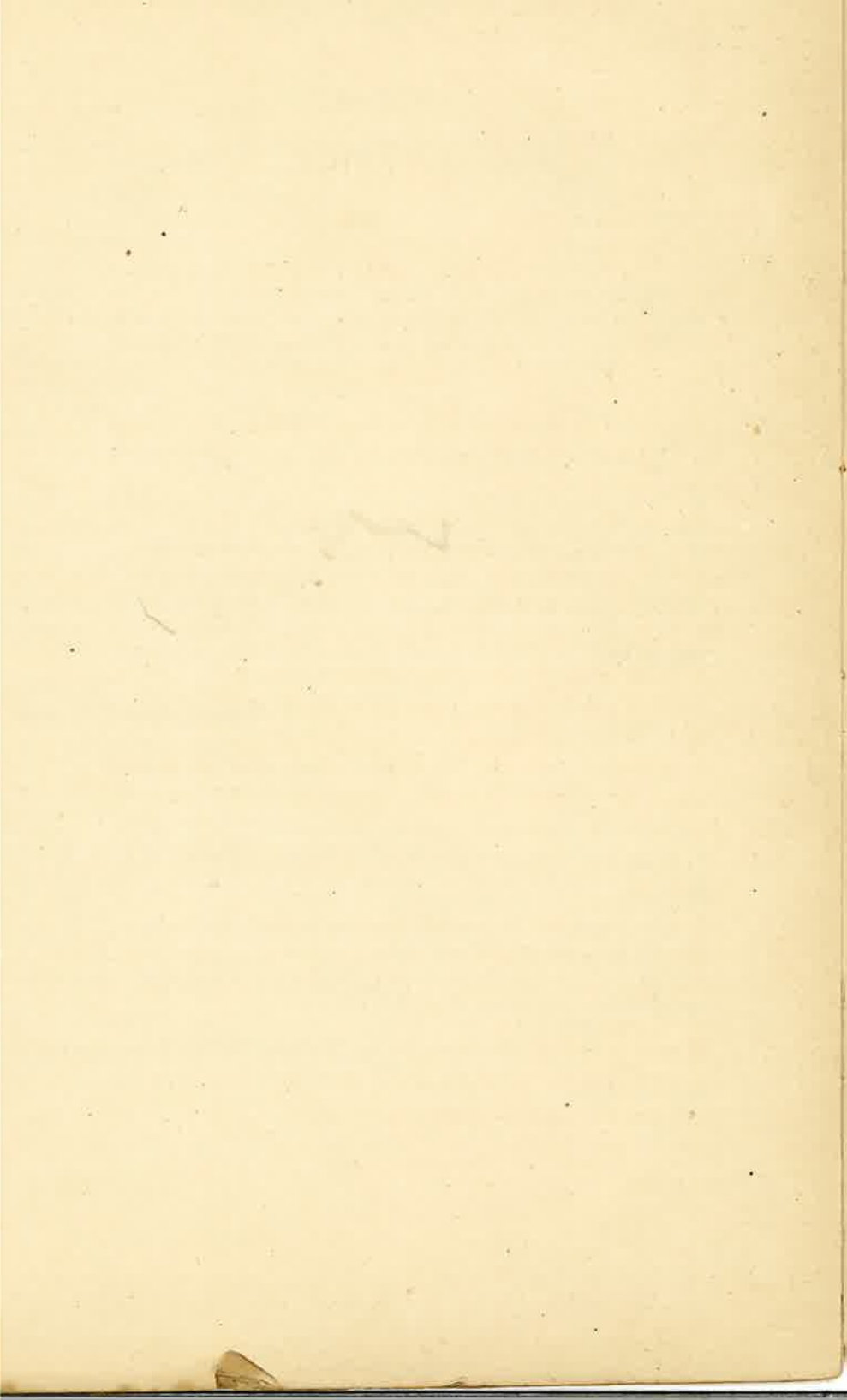
This certifies that we have examined the books and accounts of the Treasurer of the Proprietors of the Cemetery of Mount Auburn for the year Eighteen Hundred and Seventy-nine, and have found them correctly kept and properly balanced, with satisfactory vouchers for all payments.

The certificates of stock and other evidences of property were found in accordance with the statement of his accounts.

In the general account there appears to be a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of \$3,362.15, and in the fund for repairs, \$16,627.30.

T. QUINCY BROWNE, }
HENRY A. RICE, } *Committee on Finance.*

Boston, Jan. 15, 1880.



APPENDIX.

TO PROPRIETORS.

INFORMATION.

THE following statement is presented in answer to the question frequently asked in regard to the title to a lot when the proprietor dies.

By the original act of incorporation, lots are held as real estate. The proprietor can convey, or by will devise, his lot; but if he dies intestate it descends to his heirs-at-law, who are (Chap. 220, Acts of 1876):—

Title to lot
held as real
estate.
If proprietor
dies intestate.

1. Children, and issue of any deceased child.
2. If no issue, then his or her father and mother.
3. If no issue nor mother, then his or her father.
4. If no issue nor father, then his or her mother.
5. If no issue, and no father nor mother, then his or her brothers and sisters, and children of any deceased brother or sister.
6. If no issue, and no father, mother, brother, nor sister, then next of kin.

Heirs-at-law.

7. If a widow and no kindred, then the widow.¹

Except as provided by 7, the widow has *no title* to a lot; and, unless the heirs-at-law convey it to her, she cannot order interments.

Widow no
title or right
to lot.

If a proprietor in his will makes no devise of the lot, it becomes a part of the residuary estate; or if not devised, and no bequest of residue, it descends to heirs-at-law.

Provisions of
will.

¹ See note next page.

Representative to be designated.

Chap 28, sect. 3, General Statutes, and sect. 8 of Charter, provide, "if there be more than one devisee or heir-at-law, the Board of Trustees may designate which one shall represent the lot."

Representative no control over title.

This designation *does not affect the title*. They (the heirs or devisees) are tenants-in-common; no sale can be made unless all sign conveyance.

Petition for representative. Importance of prompt return.

It is IMPORTANT that the petition for representation (furnished by the secretary) should be PROMPTLY returned with the names and residences of the heirs, and signed by a *majority*: otherwise delays may occur at the cemetery in ascertaining whether the order for interment is properly signed.

Lots indivisible. No record of part ownership.

Lots are *indivisible*, and "no record of any person's interest in a lot, less than the entire ownership, shall be made on the books of the corporation." (Rules and Regulations, Art. vii.)

J. HARRIS REED,

Secretary.

JANUARY, 1880.

1874.
A bill relating to rights of widows in cemetery lots, favorably reported, did not become a law.


NOTE.—At the session of the Legislature in 1874, the Senate Committee on Probate and Chancery, to whom was referred the bill relating to rights of widows in cemetery lots, reported that the bill ought to pass. The bill was as follows: Chap. 28, sect. 3, of the General Statutes, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "privilege" the words, "and if he shall leave a widow, she shall, for the purposes of this act, be construed one of the heirs-at-law, or one of the devisees of said lot, as the case may be." The bill did not become a law.

PRICES FOR THE CARE OF LOTS,

ADOPTED BY THE TRUSTEES

FOR 1880.

| SIZE OF LOT. | CARE. | TOP-DRESSING. | |
|------------------|--------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 100 square feet. | \$1.50 | \$1.00 | Larger lots at special rates. |
| 200 " " | 2.00 | 1.50 | |
| 300 " " | 3.00 | 2.00 | Lots containing fractional |
| 400 " " | 4.00 | 2.50 | parts of 100 feet will be |
| 500 " " | 5.00 | 3.00 | charged the rate of the near- |
| 600 " " | 6.00 | 3.50 | est 100 feet. |
| 700 " " | 7.00 | 4.00 | |
| 800 " " | 8.00 | 4.50 | |

Proprietors will find blank order herewith, which they can fill and mail to Superintendent, Cambridge.  Erase what is not wanted.

To the Superintendent of Mount Auburn Cemetery,

Cambridge, Mass.

Please take care of my lot, No., this year,

and put in plants, and top-dress,

Sending bill to

Address,

JANUARY, 1880.